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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 305

same amendment that I had. Mine was to the bill. Senator Bourne's amendment to this amendment, of course, came first. This is really a matter of what is fair. Certainly, when we imposed the lid several years ago on counties, cities, and schools, we had no idea that energy prices were going to be where they are. I happened to notice last week in the paper where Embassy Suites are raising their room rates two and a half dollars a night to cover energy costs. And certainly, any of you who have been paying your own utilities, like I have this last year, found that my utilities are just double what they were. The...also the gas at the pump is increasing very high. And every school district has buses out there running. And so they're paying an additional cost to operate those buses. So this just takes that energy cost...(laugh) I'm not saying anything about ethanol, Senator Janssen. But this takes that energy cost above the base year, which happens to be 1999 to 2000, as the base year. Anything above that can come off of the lid price. And to me, that makes sense. It's a fairness issue. So I would support the amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Jensen. Anybody else wishing to speak to the Bourne amendment to AM2055? Seeing no lights, Senator Bourne, you're recognized to close if you wish to.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Mr. President. Again, this just allows for school districts to move energy costs out from under the restricted funds, give them a little bit of help as well, given the exponential growth we've had in gasoline prices and natural gas. I'd appreciate your support.

SENATOR CUDABACK: You've heard the closing on AM2074 offered by Senator Bourne to the Maxwell amendment, AM2055 to LB 305. The question is, shall the amendment be adopted? All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Voting on AM2074 to the Maxwell amendment. Have you all voted who care to? Have you all voted? Have you all voted?

SENATOR BOURNE: Move for a call of the house, please.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Bourne. Senator Bourne has requested